

Appl. No. 09/910,462  
Amdt. dated July 12, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of March 15, 2006

PATENT

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method of delivering at least one item or service from a provider to a receiver, the method comprising:
  - placing an order for at least one item or service to with the provider;
  - ~~providing the at least one item or service to a deliverer;~~
  - ~~delivering the at least one item or service to the receiver;~~
  - obtaining at least one piece of data from the receiver at the time of delivery, the at least one piece of data being from a group ~~comprising~~ consisting of a credit card number, the information on the magnetic strip of a credit card, a debit card number, the information on the magnetic strip of a debit card, a check, a money order, a gift certificate, information on a chip card, data included on a device storing ~~devices that store~~ information that may be read by infrared, magnetic waves, ~~and/or~~ or radio waves, a gift certificate number, a reference number, a tracking number, an authorization number, an electronic signature, a copy of a piece of identification of the receiver, and a purchase order number;
  - providing the at least one piece of data obtained at the time of delivery to a financial processor; and
  - in response to the at least one piece of data being provided to the financial processor, providing payment for the at least one item or service from the financial processor to the provider; and
  - in response to payment being provided to the provider, delivering the at least one item or service to the receiver.
2. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1 wherein the at least one piece of data is provided to the provider prior to providing the at least one piece of data to the financial processor.

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3. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1 wherein the at least one piece of data is provided to the financial processor substantially immediately upon receipt at delivery.

4. (Original) A method in accordance with claim 1 wherein the at least one piece of data is provided to the financial processor with other pieces of data from other transactions.

5. (Currently Amended) A system for delivering at least one item or service from a provider to a receiver, the system comprising:  
a provider of at least one of an item or a service;  
a deliverer;  
a financial processor;  
at least one communication channel for providing communication between the provider, the deliverer, the financial processor, and a receiver ~~receivers~~ of the at least one of an item or a service; and,  
a data gathering device for transmitting data obtained by the deliverer during at substantially a time of delivery of the at least one of an item or service to at least one of the provider and the financial processor, whereby payment is provided for the at least one of an item or service in response to the transmitted data being provided to at least one of the financial processor and the provider and delivery is contingent upon said payment being provided, the data obtained being at least one of a group ~~comprising~~ consisting of a credit card number, the information on the magnetic strip of a credit card, the information on the magnetic strip of a debit card, a debit card number, data stored on a device storing devices that store information that may be read by infrared, magnetic waves, or and/or radio waves, a check, a money order, a gift certificate, a gift certificate number, a reference number, a tracking number, an authorization number, an address of the receiver, a purchase order number, an electronic signature, and a copy of a piece of identification of a receiver of the at least one of an item or a service.

6. (Canceled)

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7. (New) A method for obtaining payment for an item or service near the time of delivery, comprising:  
obtaining identifying information from the intended recipient of at least one of an item and a service at substantially a time of delivery for the item or service;  
providing the obtained identifying information to one of a financial processor and a provider of the item or service;  
receiving a determination as to whether payment for the item or service is at least one of approved and accepted based on the obtained identifying information; and  
delivering the item or service to the intended recipient when the received determination indicates that payment for the item or service is at least one of approved and accepted.

8. (New) A method according to claim 7, wherein:  
obtaining identifying information includes obtaining at least one piece of data selected from the group consisting of a credit card number, information on the magnetic strip of a credit card, a debit card number, information on the magnetic strip of a debit card, a check, a money order, a gift certificate, information on a chip card, data stored on a device storing information that may be read by infrared, magnetic waves, or radio waves, a gift certificate number, a reference number, a tracking number, an authorization number, an electronic signature, a copy of a piece of identification of the receiver, and a purchase order number.

9. (New) A method according to claim 7, further comprising:  
returning the item or service undelivered when the received determination indicates that payment for the item or service is not at least one of approved and accepted.

10. (New) A method according to claim 7, wherein:  
providing the obtained identifying information to one of a financial processor and a provider of the item or service includes transmitting the obtained identifying information to one of a financial processor and a provider of the item or service at substantially the time of delivery.